

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The title of the invention has been changed to: --Optical flip-flop based read-out arrangement having a master laser and a slave laser--.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record fails to teach an arrangement for optical read-out of information stored on an optical information carrier, among other features, comprising an optical system for directing light from a master laser onto the optical information carrier, receiving reflected light from the carrier, and injecting the reflected light into a slave laser; and control means for adjusting the emission wavelength of the master laser and thereby controlling the wavelength difference between the emission from the master laser and a free-running emission from the slave laser.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

I) Ibe et al 4,977,561 disclose a laser device having dual laser diodes and a beam splitter.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Que T. Le whose telephone number is (571) 272-2438.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Epps Georgia, can be reached on (571) 272-2328. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Que T. Le/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2878